AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace paragraph 30 with the following:

[0030] With the multilayer composite filter medium according to the invention it is possible to achieve a greater efficiency in the suction and pressure oil ranges, in particular for transmission and engine applications. This involves a serial filtration, with coarser dirt particles being retained in the nonwoven filter mat and finer ~~dire~~ dirt particles being retained in the downstream woven filter fabric in a preferred embodiment. By this structure of the filter medium, the advantages of surface filtration and depth filtration are combined. With the composite filter medium according to the invention, which is preferably bonded by means of ultrasonic welding, the filer medium is given a particular welding contour, which ensures the optimum open surface area, and consequently throughflow area, and on the other hand ensures permanent bonding of the filtration layers. Furthermore, standardized production of such a filter medium is ensured and production with low tolerances is made possible. The filter media produced in this way also have improved properties with respect to pressure loss, filtration efficiency and dirt take-up capacity and can be used in particular for transmission oil filtration in CVTs, without an additional pressure oil filtration being necessary as in the past. Rather, satisfactory functioning of the transmission and maintenance of the oil purity classes necessary for this are ensured.

Please cancel page 17.